

Data Sheet

USAID Mission:	Serbia
Program Title:	Democracy and Economic Security
Pillar:	Democracy, Conflict and Humanitarian Assistance
Strategic Objective:	169-0211
Status:	New in FY 2006
Planned FY 2006 Obligation:	\$11,300,000 AEEB
Prior Year Unobligated:	\$250,000 AEEB
Proposed FY 2007 Obligation:	\$7,971,000 AEEB
Year of Initial Obligation:	2006
Estimated Year of Final Obligation:	2012

Summary: This objective will address vulnerabilities in specific parts of the country, as well as systemic weaknesses that inhibit stability throughout the republic. The objective envisages improving economic security in vulnerable areas to reduce poverty and ensure fair, equitable, and sustainable development. It will also target crucial democratic structures and processes at all levels republic-wide to create continued support for democratic reforms and prepare for potential crises in areas at greatest risk of conflict.

Inputs, Outputs, Activities:

FY 2006 Program:

Protect and Increase the Assets and Livelihoods of the Poor (\$6,900,000 AEEB, \$250,000 AEEB prior year recoveries). This program will address local-level economic/social factors that contribute to the risk of instability or conflict. Activities will focus on several "vulnerable areas" or populations and develop local and national capacity to respond to different types of crises and emergencies. The program will initially rely on the existing Community Revitalization through Democratic Action - Economic (CRDA-E) program, particularly in Southern Serbia, to promote economic growth, security, and job creation. These activities will be complemented by other USAID efforts. The activity will also capitalize on existing local economic development committees, community development centers, and regional development agencies to promote micro-enterprise and will continue assistance to the Junior Achievement program. A new economic/social activity will be initiated in select vulnerable areas that will gear up as CRDA-E winds down. USAID will also design a new program to develop crisis planning and management skills at the local and national levels and to ensure rapid and effective response to potential crisis. Principal partners: Cooperative Housing Foundation International and others to be determined.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$3,000,000 AEEB). USAID will provide grants, training, and technical assistance to strengthen NGO capacity to support and monitor a range of democratic reforms (including human rights, truth and reconciliation, Serbia's reintegration into the Balkans, accession to the European Union (EU), and transparency in government). The program will focus on non-governmental organization (NGO) advocacy skills, professional and financial management, and fundraising capacity; the legal environment for NGOs and independent media; media privatization; and professional and business skills for independent media. Principal partners: to be determined.

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,400,000 AEEB). USAID will support a more responsive, democratic political system by strengthening the capacity of political parties to access and incorporate citizen input, develop party platforms and policies, and communicate effectively with party members and citizens. Assistance will also prepare democratic parties, both in and out of power, to govern more effectively, foster issue-based coalitions, strengthen political party caucuses, and enhance internal democracy. This work is closely integrated with support for free and fair elections, focusing on developing campaign messages, recruiting grassroots volunteers, and targeting voters. USAID programming aims to include ethnic minorities, women and youth in the political process. Principal partners: International Republican Institute and National Democratic Institute.

FY 2007 Program:

Protect and Increase the Assets and Livelihoods of the Poor (\$3,071,000 AEEB). As the CRDA-E program closes out in late FY 2007, USAID will expand work initiated in FY 2006 to improve economic opportunities, enhance economic security in vulnerable areas, and continue developing local and national capacity to deal with various types of potential crises and emergencies.

Strengthen Civil Society (\$3,500,000 AEEB). In FY 2007, USAID will continue to build NGO capacity to conduct sustained campaigns to analyze and influence public policy and serve as government watchdogs, particularly on reforms required for EU accession, as well as support the professionalism and sustainability of independent, private media.

Strengthen Democratic Political Parties (\$1,400,000 AEEB). USAID will continue to build a more responsive, democratic political system by strengthening the capacity of political parties, with a greater emphasis on internal and external communication. USAID will also continue to foster issue-based coalitions, strengthen political party caucuses, and enhance internal democracy. Programming will continue to support the inclusion of ethnic minorities, women, and youth.

Performance and Results: During FY 2005, USAID supported work on the rule of law, political processes, civil society, and media, with programs winding down in support of labor and anti-trafficking. USAID assistance has sought to raise the standards of professional journalism and technical capacity at selected outlets, support local associations, improve business management practices, enable war-crimes coverage, encourage specialized reporting on transitional issues, and advocate for legal reform. USAID also has supported print, broadcast, and news agency coverage of war crimes trials from the Hague, and has been addressing the practical implications of media privatization, including technical support to municipal media managers in preparing privatization bid documents. To support civil society, nearly \$1 million in grants were provided that enabled diverse activities including free legal assistance in 360 cases addressing issues such as access to justice, army and civil service, centers for social service, police torture, and the excess of police authorities; training in NGO capacity building and advocacy; research on the movement of people and trade between Kosovo and Serbia; and development of a model for planning and implementing domestic violence protection measures. USAID assistance focused on helping improve political party communication, helping them broaden and deepen their capability to reach out to and represent voters' interests, develop and pursue platform-based political strategies, and define unique identities based on issue-oriented policy prescriptions. The new objective will aim at improving economic security in vulnerable areas, not only to reduce poverty but also to ensure that improvements are addressed fairly throughout the population and are sustainable. It will also target crucial democratic structures and processes at all levels republic-wide to create continued support for democratic reforms, as well as a stronger check to the potential rise of non-democratic forces and will also include a third intervention mechanism to respond quickly to a crisis situation anywhere in the Republic with more specific conflict assistance. The results of success would include a civil society with more confidence and engagement in the political process, through strengthened NGO advocacy, improved information, and better representation by political parties. In vulnerable areas, USAID expects improvement in living conditions and heightened community integration and participation in local social, political, and economic processes.

US Financing in Thousands of Dollars

Serbia

169-0211 Democracy and Economic Security	AEEB
Through September 30, 2004	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Fiscal Year 2005	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Through September 30, 2005	
Obligations	0
Expenditures	0
Unliquidated	0
Prior Year Unobligated Funds	
Obligations	250
Planned Fiscal Year 2006 NOA	
Obligations	11,300
Total Planned Fiscal Year 2006	
Obligations	11,550
Proposed Fiscal Year 2007 NOA	
Obligations	7,971
Future Obligations	0
Est. Total Cost	19,521